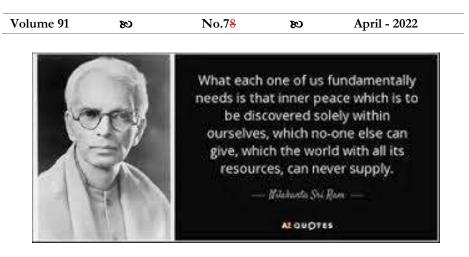


THE BOMBAY THEOSOPHICAL BULLETIN

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF

THE BOMBAY THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION



No individual can Ultimately fail The Divinity Which descends into Humanity is bound to Re-gain its original state.

Nilkantha Sri Ram

## MISSION OF TS To serve humanity by cultivating an ever deepening understanding and realization of the Ageless Wisdom, spiritual self-transformation and the unity of all life

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### **BOMBAY BRETHEREN AS INVITEE SPEAKERS**

**SIS. ABAN PATEL** at Triveni gave talk in English on 'Parsee Religion in Light of Theosophy' on 22nd Feb 2022.

**BRO. NAVIN KUMAR** in Hindi highlighted Shri Nandakumar Raut's talk on '*Life & Works of A. P. Sinnett*' at Triveni Meet of 8th March 2022.

**SIS. ABAN PATEL** was invited by Rewa Lodge, Vadodara to speak in Gujarati on *'Charitravan Jeevan'* at their Google Meet on 13th March 2022.

**On 22-3-2022 TRIVENI MEET** was the Meet of THREE FEDERATIONS – Marathi, Gujarat & Bombay. and three languages – Prof. C. A.Shinde in English, Shri Nandakumar Raut in Marathi & Shri Ashok Lokhande in Hindi on '*Pasaydaan' – Janaesvari (on Geeta)by Saint Dhaneshwar*.

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Acting Editor – Sis. Mahazaver Rustom R. Dalal Cover Page by: Sis. Kashmira Khambatta Editorial Committee –Sis.Mahazaver Dalal (Reporter & in charge of Mailing List), Sis. Kashmira Khambatta, Sis. Aban Patel and Ex-Officio: President Bro. Vinayak Pandya. <u>Note:</u> News, Notes and Programs to be printed

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in the Bulletin be forwarded by e-mail to <u>kashmira.khambatta@gmail.com</u> latest by16th each month. Readers' Views are invited.



NOMINATIONS INVITED FOR BLAVATSKY LODGE, T.S. MANAGING COMMITTEE FOR THE YEARS 2022-2024 Nominations are invited for the following on the Managing Committee of the Blavatsky Lodge, T.S., for the term of two years 2022-2024:

(1) President

(2) Vice-president

(3) Treasurer

(4) SEVEN Members of the Managing Committee

Nomination slips are available with Lodge Assistant Sis. Asha Mhatre.

These slips duly filled in and signed by the Nominee and the Proposer / Seconder (Blavatsky Lodge Members) should be handed over to Election Officer Sis. Rajam Pillai) latest by 30thJuly 2022.

Sis. Jasmine Cawasji

Hon. Secretary

01-04-2022

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Thanks to the Grace of Almighty and the Great Ones the World is coming out of COVID Pandemic Blavatsky Lodge is very happy to welcome once again Brethren and TS friends to its MAGNIFICENT BLAVATSKY LODGE BUILDING From 1st April 2022

## To all its Theosophical Activities

Blavatsky Lodge President & Managing Committee thank Members for keeping Blavatsky Lodge vibrant with Virtual Study Classes &

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## Programmes and Bro. Navin Kumar for managing Administration from home under Pandemic BHOWALI STUDY CAMPS OF 2022

Shri V. Narayanan, Treasurer Indian Section TS announces Summer Study Camp to be held at BHOWALI from 15th April to 30th June 2022. The Registration Fee for members will be Rs.100/-. It will be non-refundable. Food charges and Room Rent will have to be paid on arrival at Bhowali. Duration of a Camp will not exceed 7 days per Federation and a member will not be permitted to attend more than one Study Camp.

**Interested members please inform BTF President Bro. Vinayak Pandya about your wish to attend Bhowali Study Camp.** He can arrange BTF Study Camp with Gujarat Federation on the theme mutually decided for one of the available slots: (1) April 17 to 23 (2) April 25 to 1St May (3) May 2 to 7 (4) May 9 to 15

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#### **OBITUARY**

Three Inspiring Theosophists of Adyar have passed away to light Eternal in the last Month. They are Dr. N. C. Ramanujachary, Past Joint General Secretary of Indian Section TS. He was in charge of Department of Studies of Indian Section TS. His booklet on 'Some Aspects of Theosophical Understanding' was distributed free to members of Bombay. His booklet is also on 'How to Study Secret Doctrine'. Bro. S. M. Amarnath Rao, Grand Secretary of Indian Administration of Eastern Order of International C-freemasonry and one of the Key Workers of Adyar. He used to very kindly guide Masonic Lodges of Mumbai & Juhu. Sis. Sundari was a warm and helpful friend in Adyar for members of Mumbai attending

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International Conventions. May their souls be blessed with Eternal Peace.

## 'Life & Works of A. P. Sinnett'

## At TRIVENI MEET of 8th March 2022, Bro. Navin Kumar in Hindi covered Shri Nandkumar Raut's talk in English on 'Life & Works of A. P. Sinnett'

Sinnett's father died while he was young. In 1851 Sinnett was listed as a "Scholar – London University", living with his mother Jane, who was listed as a widow and whose occupation was listed as "Periodical Literature"; his older sister Sophia, age 22, was a teacher. Jane's sister Sarah, age 48, was also a teacher.

In 1870 Sinnett married his wife Patience, probably in the London area. By 1879, Sinnett had moved to India where he was "... the Editor of *The Pioneer*, the leading English Daily of India..."

He relates in **his book** '*The Occult World*' that Madame Blavatsky's acquaintance became a guest at his home in Allahabad and she remained there for six weeks. In 1880 HPB & H. S. Olcott visited the Sinnett's at their summer home in Shimla.

'The Mahatma Letters to A P Sinnett', contains more than 100 letters sent by Master KH to him and contains thoughts about the purpose and work of The TS. Sinnett's most important book in my view is 'Esoteric Buddhism' as it is most enlightening about the Masters' work and their teachings.

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## PARSEE RELIGION IN LIGHT OF THEOSOPHY

Sis. Aban Patel's Talk at Triveni Meet on 22-2-2022 with artistic PPt by Sis. Kashmira Khambatta

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*Sis. Aban Patel in First Part of her talk,* spoke about Prophet Zarathushtra, His message of Purity; Righteousness, Truth &

Love for humanity; Seven Ameshaspentas (Arc Angels); Sun – the beautiful body of God and Aatash (Fire) the most adorable Son of Ahuramazda; Consecrated Fire and Five Gathas (Hymns) of Zarathushtra; burning of Persipolis Library by Emperor Alexandra and saved few Zoroastrian scriptures; Cyrus the Great who in the World gave First Charter of Human Rights; With Arab invasion last Battle on soil of Persia which forced Zoroastrian to sail to India with whom trade relations were there; Wise King Jadi Rana of Sanjan, who understood the reply of Head Priest by returning cup of milk adding sugar to it – that 'We are few, will mingle with your people and will also enrich the life in your country'. As these Zoroastrians were from Pars of Persia, they were called Parsee.

Sis. Aban Patel opened Second Part of her talk speaking about consecration of the Biggest Fire Temple at Udvada and valuable contribution of Parsees from Philanthropy to Atomic Energy– true to the promise of 'sweetening the milk'. Mahatma Gandhi has said "Parsis, in Number are beneath contempt, but in Charity beyond compare".

Col. H.S. Olcott gave several lectures on Zoroastrianism. In one of his talks delivered at the Town Hall in Bombay, in 1882, he said: In Zoroastrianism, the Parsi is as carefully taught to eschew and fight against the powers of the evil spirits of darkness as to cultivate intimacy with and win the protecting favour of the personified good principles of nature"

*Significance of Navjote (Entrant in New Light) Ceremony* was explained, when the Priest endows an initiate with Sudreh (white vest) and Kusti (girdle) made of Sheep wool.

Sis. Aban Patel expounded on 'Parsee Religion in Light of Theosophy', of which extracts are as under:

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To the third Aryan sub-race came Zarthushtra, the great teacher of Humanity. He came as a Prophet at the beginning of the Iranian sub-race.

**Madam Blavatsky,** in her article on Zoroastrianism, in the Theosophist IV inter alia says "Ahura Mazda Himself issued from Zarvane Akarne, i.e., the 'boundless circle of time' or the unknown cause. The glory of the latter is too exalted, its Light too resplendent for either human intellect or mortal eye to grasp and see".

**Theory of Creation with Evolution: there are six Ghambars** that is Periods during which, the entire Universe came into being. They are:

- 1. Maedyozarem—Period in which Heavenly Canopy was formed
- 2. Maedyoshahem—Period in which Water was precipitated from the steaming clouds
- 3. Paetishahem –Period in which Earth became Consolidated out of cosmic atoms
- 4. Iyathrem –Period in which Earth gave birth to Vegetation
- 5. Maediyarem –Period in which Vegetation evolved into Animal life
- 6. Hamespithamaedem –Period in which animal life culminated into Man, with fully developed Consciousness and Intelligence.

To commemorate these periods, on certain days, according to Zoroastrian calendar special prayers are offered in the Fire Temples and people of all strata of society, rich and poor, young and old, partake in the feast sitting together, showing

Life after Death and the ceremony to be performed: according to Zarthushtis, a human being does not have only one body. There are 7 bodies as we have seen in Theosophy. They are 4 mortal bodies-

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1).Tanu-Physical, 2).Kehrep-Etheric, 3).Ushtan- Vital Life Force, 4). Tewishi – Astral. Three Immortal bodies are – 1).Uruwan-Causal/Incarnating soul, 2). Boadhang-Buddhic/Intuitions, 3).Fravashi-Monad/the Divine

Spark. It does not incarnate but remains as a Guardian Angel also known as Farrohar.

At death, the Tanu (physical body) is cast aside along with the Kehrep\_(Etheric Double) and Ushtan(Vital life force) leaves the body and returns to the sun. . Two priests say the prayer of 1st Gatha Ahunavaiti, which is very effective in separating the soul from the Maya and desires of this world. Then the body is consigned to Tower of Silence, in the open so that the birds of prey and more importantly, the sunlight and air can do the work of decomposition as quickly as possible. Prayers and ceremonies are done for all three days and on the dawn of fourth day higher liturgical prayers are done by the priest as the soul reaches the bridge of the Separator(Chinvat Pool), where the Archangel Sarosh with His Assistant Rashnuweighs the deeds done on earth and its further journey is decided accordingly.

Good many prayers and ceremonies are done for the departed souls during the first year of their passing away. There is a belief that departed souls collectively attend special prayers during the last ten days of the Zoroastrian calendar called Muktad (Mukti of atma). During these days flowers and incense are offered and prayers are done by the family members of the departed souls, as well as the priests in the fire temples. It is said that these souls feel very happy that they are remembered and they, in turn bless them.

Zarthushti Emblem of Farohar The Guardian angel – Monad. This sacred emblem and is widely used on façade of temples, or any holy place of Zoroastrian importance. Depicted in architecture as a winged bird, is the Spirit, the Divine Spark, [Monad], which does not

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incarnate, but remains as a guardian –angel. It is the center of will, determination and planning faculty.

Homi Bhabha of Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai says, "when I was young, I was told by elders that our Religion is based on Science. But as I grew up and studied science in detail, I realized that Science is based on my religion i.e., Zoroastrianism."

In the book Seven Great Religions of the World **Dr. Annie Besant** says, "O my Parsi Brothers! Your Prophet is not dead. He is not perished; he is watching over the religion that he founded; ever seeking to raise it from its present degradation, to give it back its lost knowledge, its lost powers. I dream of a day when the breath of the great prophet Zarathushtra shall sweep again through His Fire Temples.

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BRO. ULYSSES RIEDDEL Illuminating the Theosophical World at 90 -'Come my friends it is not too late to seek a newer Theosophical World'

Bro. Arni Narendran writes about Inspiring Theosophist



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**Photo on Left:** Bro Ulysses with Ricardo Linderman at the Vegan restaurant in Brasilia- Villa Vegana

**Photo on Right:** Bro Ulysses sitting in Blue T shirt. Third Right is Sis Resende a roving Ambassador of Theosophy

The first '*Ulysses*', I came across, was the Greek Mythological Hero through a Book my Dad presented to me - a schoolboy. Years later I happened to travel on a Scandinavian cruise ship called 'Ulysses' with my wife, Sue. Synchronicity that it happened to be from the country of James Joyce and his controversial fiction with the same name - Ulysses. Yes, from Dublin to Wales in the spring of 2018. Yet the most important association with the magical name is **my association with Bro Ulysses Riedel, a Brazilian Theosophist,** one of the remarkable personalities in the contemporarily theosophical landscape of our times.

I was a young college student and happened to be in the house of Late President Bro John Coats. He had invited a few Theosophists to discuss on ideas of moving Forward - a Visionary that he was. Bro Ulysses had traveled to Adyar with his wife, Resende and daughter Isis, with fellow Theosophists Fernando Gramaccini and dearest friend Elizibeth, who spoke to me in Portuguese and me in English, yet we understood perfectly well. At that time, I had met him decades ago, and even now Bro Ulysses was a charmer, vibrant and enthusiastic full of energy and enthusiasm for a lifelong theosophical work. His Theosophy was not limited to listening or delivering lectures at his Lodge in Brasilia. He is a third generation Theosophist and is a born Vegetarian turned Vegan. A successful lawyer running his own Attorney firm, he branched out into the broader world to spread Theosophy. A founder member of Uniao Planetaria (Planetary Union) an organization that promotes Theosophy independently of Theosophical Society ( Adyar). He

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broadcasts lectures in 66 cities of Brazil, by cable TV-The TV SUPREN. He also runs three successful Vegan restaurant chain in **Brasilia - Villa Vegana.** He is associated with the Animal Rights movement in the public platform similar to the Blue Cross movement of Sis Rukmani Devi Arundale, a public figure and a Beacon for Theosophy.

Last week the Theosophical Society of Moscow (Adyar) had organized a talk by Bro Ulysses, for which I was invited by my long time Theosophist Buddy - Sr. Isis Resende, President of Inter American Federation of Theosophists and daughter of Bro Ulysses. Must thank Bro Alexey Basputin for this thoughtful programme. Bro Ulysses spoke in Brazilian Portuguese and Sr. Isis translated in English. The Russian translation was done by the immaculate and lively Bro. Svyatoslav Lipsky. In his talk Bro Ulysses thanked his good Fortune for being associated with the Theosophical movement and *said it is a fountain of opportunity to serve humanity as his experience in real Life has proved.* He is synonymous with the Adyar Banyan Tree with a progeny of twenty-six grandchildren.

His daughter Sr Isis Resende has been a lifelong server of the movement worldwide and a prolific Theosophy speaker from the She is presently active in Russia. His son Bro Marcos De Heart Resende is the President of the Theosophical Society in Brazil. At Ninety Bro Ulysses is charged with enthusiasm and Energy of a youth of 19 and his talk was infectious. The defining moment came when he saw me on the screen after Bro Lipsky read my Chat remarks to him and he recollected the conversations we had decades ago as we 'Walked the Talk" under the magical sunlight by the Advar River - from the President Bro John Coat's residence (Olcott Bungalow) to the historic Lead Beater Chambers. His 'Virtual HUG' was timeless and nostalgic. Indeed, Bro Ulysses is an epitome of – LOVE AND LIGHT

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# LIVING THEOSOPHY EVERY MOMENT Charitravan Jeevan

Extracts from the Gujarati Talk of Sis. Aban Patel

On 13th March 2022 Sis. Aban Patel had given a talk in Gujarati under the aegis of Rewa Lodge, Vadodara TS. Her subject was *"Charitravan Jeevan- Character Building"*. a book written by Late Mehraben Dhalla.

She started her talk with reference to Jeev- Atma and how our life can be molded to build a good character and also be a good student of Theosophical Society.

The main points or habits to be developed by an individual were extensively explained. They are:

- 1. Punctuality
- 2. Orderliness or Efficiency
- 3. Sincere effort to do any work, big or small
- 4. Selection of work easy or difficult
- 5. Alertness & Carefulness
- 6. Sweet tongue/speech
- 7. Truthfulness
- 8. Tolerance
- 9. Forgiveness
- 10. Recognizing our own faults and improving them
- 11. Control of carnal/lustful desires
- 12. Development of Will Power.

She further talked in brief about the Law of Karma and how a man should try to rectify all the bad habits in this life and try to lead an honest and truthful life so that in the next birth there will be peace and happiness which will result in progress of his consciousness reducing the cycle of re-births.

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She ended her talk by referring to the Golden Stairs written by Madam Blavatsky to ascend the steps which the learner may climb to the Temple of Divine Wisdom.

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